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COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT	
TOPIC	Koethen Airfield		25X1
EVALUATION		PLACE OBTAINED	
DATE OF CONTENT			25X1
DATE OBTAINED		DATE PREPARED	6 December 1954
REFERENCES			25X1
PAGES	2	ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)	
REMARKS			25X1
	This is UNEVALUATED Information		25X1

1. The following air activity and aircraft were observed at Koethen airfield between 18 and 28 October 1954:

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18 October. Between 1300 and 1430, there was no air activity. The eastern hangars were closed and no aircraft were seen.

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20 October. At 1700, there was no activity under way nor were there any aircraft or radio trucks seen at the field. At about 1800, 5 MiG-15s or U-MiG-15s were seen parked in front of the eastern hangars and two MiG-15s or U-MiG-15s were parked on the dispersal area of the alert flight. Three soldiers stood by the aircraft while the engines were being run-up. Individual soldiers entered the new hut located nearby.

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22 October. Two MiG-15s or U-MiG-15s were parked on the dispersal area of the alert flight south of the eastern end of the runway. The eastern hangars were closed. A MiG-15 or U-MiG-15 was parked in front of the northeastern hangar.

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23 October. There was no air activity. Two MiG-15s or U-MiG-15s were parked in front of the southeastern hangar and 4 aircraft of the same type in front of the northeastern hangar. No aircraft were seen on the dispersal area of the alert flight.

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27 October. Between 1015 and 1130, no air activity was observed. MiG-15s or U-MiG-15s observed included 3 in front of the northeastern hangar and 5 in front of the southeastern hangar.

The alert flight and the previously reported dummy aircraft were not seen.

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28 October. No air activity was observed between 0830 and 0900. Nine MiG-15s or U-MiG-15s were parked in front of the eastern hangars. The tails of some aircraft were dismantled and the engines of the other aircraft were being run up. Between 1300 and 1500, 5 MiG-15s

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or U-MiG-15s were parked without any pattern near the western hangar. It could not be determined whether they were aircraft or dummies. Nine MiG-15s or U-MiG-15s were parked near the eastern hangars. Only a few officers and EM were seen at the field and in Koethen.¹

2. At 0800 on 20 October, about 10 MiG-15s or U-MiG-15s were towed out of the eastern hangars. About 6 swept-back jet fighters were seen in front of the western hangar. The aircraft engines were started up in front of the hangars. No air activity was observed. The take-off point was not occupied. 1
3. During the time of observation beginning at 0630, the Kniferest-type radar set was in operation with short intervals between rotations. The set rotated in a clockwise direction and made one rotation in 35 seconds. 2
4. An AA gun emplacement with 6 x 37-mm AA guns was located in the southeastern corner of the field. Personnel practiced on the guns.

Comment. It is believed that Koethen airfield is still occupied by a fighter regiment and a reconnaissance regiment equipped with MiG-15s. Overhauling work on aircraft instruments and engines after the fall maneuvers has also been reported from other airfields.

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Comment. The reported speed of rotation, namely one rotation in 35 seconds, is believed to be rather slow for the Kniferest-type radar set. It is assumed that the set was to furnish a survey of the air situation since no air activity was observed at the field.

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